

BRYNKINALT

Ref No PGW (C) 15
OS Map 126
Grid Ref SJ 304 378
Former County Wrexham Maelor
Unitary Authority Denbighshire
Community Council Chirk
Designations Listed building: Brynkinalt Grade II
Site Evaluation Grade II*

Primary reasons for grading

Picturesque landscape park in very fine setting, laid out in the early nineteenth century, with gothick features and an unusual tunnel to the kitchen garden.

Type of Site

Large picturesque landscape park; formal and informal pleasure gardens.

Main Phases of Construction

Early nineteenth century

Note

That part of the park which falls in Shropshire is in the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Brynkinalt lies on high ground above the valley of the river Ceiriog shortly before it joins the river Dee. The English border follows the river, thus the views from the house are partly into Shropshire.

Members of the Trevor family have lived on this site since the year 942. The earliest building on the site today dates back to 1612, being the central portion of the present house. It is an E-plan brick building with stone dressings and shaped gables on the cross wings. The main entrance front faces south. The windows have stone mullions and transoms with mullions only on the top storey.

Extensive re-modelling was carried out in 1808 to the 'sole design of Charlotte, Viscountess Dungannon Whose genius planned and whose taste embellished the surrounding ground and park' (words inscribed on a plaque at the back of the house). The additions to the house at this time include the single-storey wings on either side of the south front, which were further lengthened to include a billiard room and conservatory on either side. Two conservatories, now gone, were inserted into the south front between the cross wings. The west front was extended northwards to include an extensive service wing. All the extensions were embellished with turrets and castellations, and finally the entire building was stuccoed.

The present Lord Trevor's father started a programme of reduction and removal of the nineteenth-century additions. The work began in 1928 and stopped during the war to be taken up again in the 1950s. The work is

now completed. The stucco was removed, except at the end of the east wing, and the large service wing which housed the kitchen at the rear was demolished except for the outer range which remains. It has a central archway and a small tower on the east end.

The stable block is situated to the north of the main house on the east side of the drive. It is a nineteenth-century rectangular brick block under a slate roof. An ornamental dairy of 1813-14 decorated with white tiles is situated to the rear of a brick sawmill, jutting into the pleasure garden. Attached to the dairy was a building called the China Room which has been demolished.

It is probable that there has been some kind of park at Brynkinalt for many centuries. However, most of the present layout of the park dates from the early nineteenth century, when Lady Charlotte Dungannon was improving the house and grounds in about 1808. Some of the more mature planting obviously pre-dates this period, however, particularly the oak. The park was embellished at this time with picturesque winding drives, gothick entrances, a gothick folly, a fine gothick bridge over the river, the Lady's Bridge, and next to it a rustic picturesque cottage. Gothick shelters next to one of the drives afforded rest for the ladies on their perambulations.

The park lies on rolling ground to the east of the village of Chirk, with the house and grounds situated on high ground towards its eastern end. The new A5 Chirk bypass cuts through the park near its west end, passing over the Ceiriog valley on a high viaduct, and then cutting through the hill to the north. An artificial bund was created on its east side here to cut down the noise, and new trees have been planted. Part of Chirk Wood obscures the road from the house. The ground slopes down to the valley of the river Ceiriog, which runs through the southern part of the park, forming its boundary at the western end. To the south of the house the woodland, Coed Glanyrafon, on the steep slope to the south of the river is an integral part of the park. The valley is very narrow at first but widens out to form a flat valley bottom, the river Ceiriog at this point clinging tightly to the south and east side of the valley. The original main entrance drive led from the St Martin's road (B5070) northwards across a plateau called the Rhyn Park to the Coed Glanyrafon, and down to the Lady's Bridge across the river, after which it looped west and north to the south front of the house. To the south of the Coed Glanyrafon this drive has now gone, but there remains a gothick lodge at the entrance. This consists of an archway and twin gothick pavilions. The remainder of the drive is now a farm track. The Lady's Bridge is a substantial stone bridge with a crenellated parapet. On the east bank of the river, just north of the bridge, is a gothick rustic cottage orne faced with rounded river-worn stones and with tree-trunk door posts. The Rhyn Park is now in agricultural use, with some clumps of deciduous trees planted by the present Lord Trevor. A Roman marching camp was found and excavated in recent years in one of the fields.

The main entrance drive from Wales is from the village of Chirk. At the entrance is a gothick lodge and simple stone gate piers. The drive runs quite straight eastwards, with a crenellated stone bridge similar in style to the Lady's Bridge across a side valley. Before the house it divides, the northern branch running to the service court on the north side of the house, the southern one running to a gravel forecourt on the south side of the house. At the entrance a more picturesque winding drive, now a farm track, runs down into the valley, passing through Chirk Wood and joining the drive from the Lady's Bridge. There are two gothick shelters next to the drive in the wood. These have stone arches and brick alcoves with wooden benches around them. The park to the north and west of the house flattens out and is bounded to the west and north-west by

the village of Chirk. A further drive, now disappeared, used to run from the village to a gate on the boundary of the grounds, which remains. One sycamore remains of the avenue that formerly flanked it.

In the open parkland planting consists mainly of scattered deciduous trees, in particular oaks. These date to the eighteenth century and earlier. There are two main areas of woodland: Chirk Wood, which runs along the north flank of the Ceiriog valley, and Coed Glanyrafon on the south and east sides of the river. Part of Chirk Wood has been dated recently to circa 1730. To the north of the house are the remains of a sycamore avenue and a line of horse chestnuts. Just to the west of the house is an eighteenth-century clump of limes. Nineteenth-century planting is largely confined to Chirk and Glanyrafon woods, and consists mainly of conifers, including redwoods, underplanted with rhododendrons, laurels and box.

The main pleasure gardens lie in two distinct areas, to the west and north-west of the house. Immediately to the west of the house is a small garden enclosed by a low modern brick wall that was originally laid out by Lady Charlotte Dungannon in the early nineteenth century for subtropical bedding. The wall is castellated on the south side where it is joined to the west wing of the house. The garden is laid out with formal raised flowerbeds in paving, the layout following that of the nineteenth century. In the nineteenth century the centre of this garden was dominated by a cedar of Lebanon. To the north is a modern swimming pool.

To the west is a gently sloping lawn bounded by a Cupressus x leylandii hedge planted by the present Lady Trevor. Several shallow flights of stone steps, flanked by stone urns, run up the slope on the line of former gravel paths, now turfed over. At the upper end of the lawn is a circular pool with a central ornamental stone basin raised on a decorative pedestal. Formal flowerbeds are laid out around the pool.

A larger pleasure garden of informal shrubbery lies on sloping ground to the north of the house. This part of the garden is linear, running in a north-south direction, and the ground, which slopes quite steeply towards the park, is landscaped and planted in an informal manner. The west side is dominated by a rockwork bank. There is a sunken area in the middle of this pleasure garden once occupied by a formal rose garden and described in the Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener for 1879: 'the design being a scroll pattern and Shamrock shaped beds planted with standard roses, the vacant places and groundwork being filled with Mignonette. In the centre is a large circular trellis'. This area is now planted with specimen trees and shrubs, but retains an open atmosphere. The north-east part of this garden has much evergreen planting as a background, interspersed with rhododendrons and azaleas, the whole being broken up by winding paths and walks. A system of streams and pools with surrounding rockwork is the focus for the east end of the pleasure ground. This pleasure garden was laid out in the late nineteenth century in the time of the 1st Baron Trevor.

The walled kitchen garden, as was often the case in the nineteenth century, also formed part of the pleasure garden, referred to in the Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener article of 1879 as the 'principal flower garden' (in this case of cut flowers). It is situated to the north of the house on the north side of the minor road to Pont-y-blew. The approach from the house is by a footpath, now partly gone, which leads via a wooden gate with diagonal bars to a tunnel under the road. The entrance is of rough stone giving the impression of a grotto, though once inside the tunnel is vaulted with brick. The tunnel is a little longer than the width of the road. The garden is in fact two walled gardens, an outer and an inner, in the middle of the outer garden.

The outer garden was planted with Norway spruce trees some years ago. There was a considerable range of glasshouses in the north-west corner of the outer garden, but this has all disappeared except for some foundations. Some of the fruit trees still remain in the north part of the outer walled garden. The south part of the outer garden formed the 'principal flower garden'. In the south-east corner is a brick built gardener's house and fruit store.

The entrance to the inner walled garden lies directly opposite the tunnel, through a pair of double wooden doors. This area is still partly used for the production of vegetables, and the walls and paths retain the old fruit trees. At the north end are the remains of two box-edged circular beds. Along the outside of the north wall is a range of bothies, tool sheds, and a furnace room. The south-facing wall has two modest glasshouses, including a vinery still containing vines, and a cucumber house. The walls have scooped sides topped with coping stones. The east wall was lower than the others and has recently (1994) been partly destroyed by a whirlwind.

Sources

Primary

Nineteenth-century photographs. Clwyd Record Office: 19/18 and 19/19.

Secondary

Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener, 18 December 1879, pp. 489-90.

An Introduction to Brynkinalt, the seat of the Rt Hon Lod Trevor, 4th Baron, by The Lady Trevor.

Kenyon, K., 'Garden of the Ladies of Llangollen', Country Life, 18 June 1964.

Pratt, D., and A.G. Veysey, A Handlist of the Topographical Prints of Clwyd (1977), nos 12-14.

Hubbard E, Clwyd (1986), pp. 112-13.

ISCOYD PARK**Ref No** PGW (C) 16**OS Map** 117**Grid Ref** SJ 505 420**Former County** Clwyd**Unitary Authority** Wrexham Maelor BC**Community Council** Bronington**Designations** Listed building: Iscoyd Park Grade II***Site Evaluation** Grade II**Primary reasons for grading**

Complete small eighteenth-century park with fine specimen trees and boundary oak paling

Type of Site

Landscape park; informal pleasure garden

Main Phases of Construction

Eighteenth century and nineteenth century, possibly on the site of an earlier park.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Iscoyd is an eighteenth-century brick house with nineteenth-century additions. The house has a five-bay south facing front with a parapeted roof. The two main eighteenth-century blocks that constitute the house were built for the Hanmer family when they moved here from Fenns Old Hall. The front was built by William Hanmer in 1747, and the back is thought to pre-date it by about thirty years.

In the first half of the nineteenth century the estate belonged to the Revd Richard Congreve, who carried out improvements to the park. In 1843 the estate was sold by the Congreve family to Philip Lake Godsal of Cheltenham. Several additions were made to the house in the nineteenth century including the pedimented and pillared porch, and a single-storey dining room was added on the left hand side of the main block, thought to be existing by 1854. Other additions, this time by Philip William Godsal in 1872-73, included a canted bay with stone quoins on the south-west side of the house overlooking a garden terrace. A bathroom extension in similar style was added on the north-west in 1893-4.

Set back slightly from the drive is an eighteenth-century three-bay coach house contemporary with the house. It is of brick with a slate roof, stone kneelered corbels and stone finishes to the gable ends. There is a granary above with a hipped dormer window, and a window in the gable end. On either side of the coach house are curved brick walls with copings and pillars on the end of each curve.

Also contemporary with the house and coach house is the laundry, a rectangular brick building situated on the side of the back drive. The detailing is similar to the coach house with stone kneelered corbels, and convex stone finishes on the gable ends. There is a Venetian window on the south-east end of the building.

A converted range of eighteenth-century brick stables, with a nineteenth-century addition on the north-west end is situated to the north of the house. It has a bell tower with lead cupola and wind vane on the south-east end.

There are two courtyards of farm buildings and stabling on the left hand side of the drive. Some of the buildings are contemporary with the house, others are nineteenth-century additions including dog kennels. Some of the stone cobbling survives.

The park at Iscoyd is small and the main part lies to the south-east of the house with a small section to the north-east. Ostensibly the park is eighteenth-century but given its siting next to the English border, plus the drop on the north-east and south-east boundaries, which give it a strategic feel, it is possible that this could be the site of a much earlier park. References to substantial houses on the site go back to the twelfth century.

The main drive enters the park to the south-west of the house, and takes a curving route to the south-west front of the house. It passes through a small boundary wood, Fir Coppice, which screens the house from the road. At the entrance are eighteenth-century rusticated stone gateposts with ball finials. The present route was made after the Second World War, and is more circuitous than the original line.

In the north-west corner of the park is a rectangular pond with a mount at its south-east end. Both pond and mount are shown on eighteenth-century plans, and stylistically would date to the sixteenth or seventeenth century. There is another small pond near the west boundary of the park, to the west of the house.

The park contains some fine specimen trees, particularly oaks and sycamores. Towards the south-east end there are also some fine mature beeches. The planting has thinned, particularly in the area immediately to the south-east of the house, as a result of an army camp (subsequently a hospital for Polish refugees, cleared in 1957) being built over this part during the last war. The planting is more concentrated in the south end of the park and the perimeters. A cricket pitch is situated directly in front of the house.

The park boundary changed under the ownership of the Revd Congreve, with the re-routing of the public road on the west. The road was moved over to the west and cut through a small wood according to a plan by Thomas Richardson of 1781. This enlarged the park, and the earth thrown up from the making of the new road created a raised boundary bank. The park boundary is defined by an oak pale.

A plan by William Emes exists, dated 1780 and described as showing 'some alterations'. This was followed by a survey in the following year by Thomas Richardson. The prime reason for these surveys seems to have been the siting of a new drive. William Emes's plan indicates a much longer drive starting well before Fir Coppice and the present drive entrance. This is accompanied by perimeter tree planting to shield the house from the road. Emes's plan did include another entrance nearer to the present main entrance site. Thomas Richardson's plan in 1781 suggests moving the by-road to the west away from the house, and another sketch plan shows a similar re-routing. It seems that Revd Congreve settled for the the plan of Thomas Richardson, although the latter seems to have adopted some of Emes's ideas.

The pleasure garden lies on the north-western side of the house with a terrace immediately around the house on the north-western and southern

sides. A small enclosure was built at the same time as the house, incorporating the dovecote, known as Pigeon House, into the north-eastern boundary wall. The wall was brought forward, bringing it level with the wing wall of the coach house, probably in the nineteenth century, leaving the dovecote standing free in the pleasure garden. The dovecote is a square brick building with pyramidal slate roof. Brick gate piers with stone ball finials were inserted in the wall opposite the dovecote, making the dovecote part of the pleasure garden layout, rather than just functional as it had been previously. Earlier maps including the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map show a substantial garden building situated immediately behind the dovecote, and at one time incorporating a glasshouse or conservatory. The formal garden is roughly on the site of this building of which nothing remains.

Today the pleasure garden is roughly circular in shape, with a circuit path and tree and shrub planting at its western end. This was a result of moving the road in the late eighteenth century, which gave room for expansion in this area. The boundary with the road is a brick wall which has a door leading on to the road. The terrace and forecourt walls were added in the nineteenth century by the Godsals. These are low brick walls, in part topped by railings. The terraces are laid out to lawn, with roses and lavender in the round flowerbeds. The north-west side of the garden is planted informally with mixed deciduous and coniferous trees.

The walled kitchen garden lies to the north-east of the house and is walled on three sides only, the south side being fenced with an iron paling only to allow maximum sunlight into the site. The walls are of brick and stand to their full height. The remains of a nineteenth-century glasshouse range remain on the north wall. There was a separate free-standing range to the south, and potting sheds at the rear, but nothing of the original glasshouses survive in this range. There is a twentieth-century glasshouse on the site.

Sources

Primary

Shropshire Record Office:

NT/M/143: Plan of the park at Iscoyd, the seat of the Rev Richard Congreve with some alterations by William Emes, 1780.

Plan of Iscoyd Park and Lands adjoining the estate of the Rev Richard Congreve by Thomas Richardson, Surveyor. July 1781.

Plan of the present road in front of Iscoyd Park with a proposed deviation.

Secondary

Hubbard, E., Clwyd (1986), pp. 379-80.

VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY

Ref No PGW (C) 17
OS Map 117
Grid Ref SJ 205 443
Former County Clwyd
Unitary Authority Glyndwr DC
Community Council Llantysilio
Designations Guardianship Ancient Monument (De3)
Site Evaluation Grade II

Primary reasons for grading

Eighteenth-century summerhouse aligned on monastic fishpond, in response to Picturesque taste of the day

Type of Site

Summerhouse; fishpond

Main Phases of Construction

Mediaeval period; mid-late eighteenth century

SITE DESCRIPTION

The summerhouse is thought to have been built in the mid to late eighteenth century by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn 4th Bt, of Wynnstay. The main evidence for this is an account of 1781 by John Byng: 'he has built a green and white summerhouse, at the end of a spruce fishing canal; and from this well-fancy'd retreat, the abbey is conceal'd by the apple trees in a cabbage garden. What charming elegance! How worthy of Clapham or Hackney'. He went on to say that if the abbey were 'properly embellishe'd it would form one of the most delightfully romantic spots in the world: surely Browne never saw the place, or he wou'd have gone wild to have handled it'.

The placing of such a building was in reponse to the recent appreciation of picturesque ruins often incorporated into landscape layouts. It is situated on the eastern side of the abbey ruins, with the river Eglwyseg bounding it to the east. To its north is a small rectangular pond, thought to be a monastic fishpond.

The summerhouse is a two-storey stone and brick rendered cottage, with a hipped slate roof on its northern end. It has a central chimney stack and an exterior stack on the south end, with casement windows either side. The north end has a shuttered canted window, which looks down the axis of the fish pond. Entry into the upper floor is by a flight of stone steps and a door on the western side of the cottage. A datestone over the door reads J.L. 1773. This is John Lloyd of Trevor who acquired the Valle Crucis lands from the Wynnstay estate. It is assumed he added the date himself. In the interior of the lower level is a cooking range, and one half of the building has a cobble floor.

Sources

Secondary

Byng, J., The Torrington Diaries, Containing the Tours through England and Wales of the Hon. John Byng between the years 1781-1794.

Pratt, D., and A.G. Veysey, A Handlist of the Topographical Prints of Clwyd (1977), nos 420-507.

Whittle, E., The Historic Gardens of Wales (1992), p. 56.

LOWER SOUGHTON HALL

Ref No PGW (C) 18
OS Map 117
Grid Ref SJ 248679
Former County Clwyd
Unitary Authority Delyn BC
Community Council Northop
Designations None
Site Evaluation Grade II

Primary reasons for grading

Garden layout and planting by Dame Sylvia Crowe and Raymond Cutbush.

Type of Site

Formal and informal garden

Main Phases of Construction

1937, 1947, 1960-70

SITE DESCRIPTION

Lower Soughton Hall is an Elizabethan house remodelled in the nineteenth century, 1865-66 by J.W. Walton. The history of Lower Soughton is fragmentary, and there is a possibility that the remains of an earlier house lie to the south of the present house. There is a bath house or baptistry in the garden dated 1711 with an inscription 'EML', Edward Lewis, who lived at Lower Soughton. Lewis was a brother-in-law of Edward Conway who inherited and extended the lands in 1689.

The house has an asymmetrical arrangement, and is built of brick with stone dressings. The roof is of slate with stone coped gables. The house is approached from the west and has a flagged and sett entrance court on the north side of the house. The forecourt was laid within the last few years, the materials having come from Liverpool. The south front faces the garden, and a conservatory has recently been built between the two main wings in a style complementary to the house by the present owner.

The stable yard and coach house and other ancillary buildings are situated to the west of the house. The buildings are set around a yard on three sides. Another yard entered through brick gatepiers lies on the left side of the back drive roughly opposite the stable yard. A brick cottage with half hipped slate roof and fretted bargeboards is situated just inside the gate. A stone cottage lies across the eastern end of the yard. The yard floor is laid with setts.

The main part of the garden lies immediately to the south and west of the house. There are few signs of an early garden except some vestigial walling. Two walls ran from east to west just south of the house with a connecting wall running north to south making some form of walled garden. The last of any substantial walling was removed just before the Second World War when the present garden was laid out to the design of the eminent landscape architect Dame Sylvia Crowe (1901-), commissioned by the owner Mr Gray.

Prior to Sylvia Crowe's layout an 'old time garden' existed, as described in the 1912 sale catalogue, laid out with traditional herbaceous borders roughly in the area of the present borders, with lawns immediately to the south of the house.

The grounds are entered by a straight drive from the west which arrives at the north front of the house. The forecourt is bounded by mown lawns and planted with specimen trees. A curved wall with pillars, steps and lamps makes a focal point in this area. The garden is bounded on the north by a ha-ha, giving views out over the former park. A more natural garden is in the process of being made on the east side of the house focusing on the river Quigley, which runs north to south on the eastern side of the garden.

Looking from the south front of the house a lawn stretches towards the main body of Sylvia Crowe's layout. A short avenue of yew piers are bounded to one side by a herbaceous border backed by a high yew hedge. In complete contrast on the east are island beds with mixed shrub and herbaceous planting which slope towards the river. On the eastern side of the stream is a mixed tree and shrub border. A curving path follows the line of the river. Returning in the direction of the house, on the side of the path is a Baptistery or Bath House, a small stone building with a datestone of 1711 and the initials EML.

Behind the yew hedge lies a double border entered through a yew archway. At the south end of the double border is a small enclosed garden surrounded with yew hedge. Beyond the double border new gardens are being made on a compartmented theme, complemented by an orchard planted by the present owner. Two restored glasshouses are also situated in this area. On the west side of the main lawn is a formal paved rose garden laid out in 1947 by Mr Gray.

There is a small orchard situated to the west of the pleasure garden.

Sources

Primary

Letter from Robin Gray to the present owner.
Plans drawn up by Raymond Cutbush and Sylvia Crowe. Clwyd Record Office: D/SH/834.

Secondary

Hubbard, E., Clwyd (1986), p. 408.

TREVOR HALL

Ref No PGW (C) 19

OS Map 117

Grid Ref SJ 257 424

Former County Clwyd

Unitary Authority Glyndwr DC

Community Council Llangollen Rural

Designations Listed building: Trevor Hall Grade I; Garden wall, ha-ha, gazebo, and entrance gate pillars Grade II; Stables and farm buildings Grade II

Site Evaluation Grade II

Primary reasons for grading

Seventeenth- and eighteenth-century garden in fine position overlooking the Dee valley.

Type of Site

Walled garden; woods with bath house

Main Phases of Construction

Seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries

SITE DESCRIPTION

The history of Trevor is somewhat fragmented due to repeated inheritance on the female side. It is known that Tudor Trevor was born in a house on this site. A Mary Trevor married a Lloyd of Llanrhaeadr in the early eighteenth century, and their daughter married a Lloyd of Pentre Hobyn in the 1740s. The estate then unified with the Coed Helen estate near Caernarvon belonging to the Rice-Thomas family, who had moved out of Trevor by 1820. The house was let on a short tenancy to the manager of the local iron works, and again on another short tenancy to a shipping agent from Liverpool. In 1865 Trevor was sold on a 100-year lease to J.C. Edwards, the Ruabon brick and terra-cotta manufacturer, to whom the property had been let by the Coed Helen estate for some time previously. Edwards's widow lived here until her death in 1927. By 1952 the lease expired and the estate reverted to the Coed Helen estate. The house was then sold, and bought by a local timber merchant. It then became a children's home and lastly a farm building. The house lost its roof in a fire in the early 1960s, but has recently undergone extensive restoration.

Trevor Hall is an eighteenth-century remodelling and enlarging of an earlier house built by the Trevor family. The brick front with stone base and quoins was added by Bishop Trevor in the mid eighteenth century. The brickwork is broken up by two sandstone string courses, and stone key stones over the windows. The front door has a stone surround and pediment, and a double flight of stone steps with plain iron baluster rails leading up to it. A water pipe is dated 1742. There is also a datestone on the east wing of the house with the inscription '1742 John Roberts, Mason, Anno Domini, Dum spiro spero'. The eastern wing was remodelled and extended northwards for J.C. Edwards, probably by G.C. Richardson.

To the east of the house are nineteenth-century stone stables and farm sheds of three sides with a central yard.

Trevor Hall is situated on the north side of the Dee valley on ground sloping to the south. The land to its east, west and south is not a true park, but in the nineteenth century a lodge was built by what is now the A539, to the south. The drive, now disused, was in place prior to the lodge being built, and may be a later utilization of a farm track following the line of a wood on the north side. This wood once extended as far as the garden boundary, and is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. Trevor Church stands to the south-west of the house. This was built in the first half of the eighteenth century (consecrated in 1772) as a private chapel for the Lloyd family, who lived at Trevor Hall at the time. In the present wood is a stone bath house with a sunken stone-lined rectangular bath up to one metre deep. The present drive from the east is of earlier origin and retains the remains of a lime avenue. It probably relates to the mid eighteenth-century brick front of the hall. The open pasture of the park contains a few isolated eighteenth-century oaks, and Trevor Hall Wood, at the western end, is of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees.

The pleasure garden is small and lies to the south, east and west of the hall. It is enclosed by a stone wall of between two and three metres in height. The wall is roughly contemporary with the earlier part of the house, though nothing of the garden layout of that time remains. The last known recorded layout dates from the nineteenth and early twentieth century, when the Edwards family took the property on a hundred-year lease. The garden is separated from the park on the south side by a stone ha-ha.

The garden falls into three distinct areas. To the east of the house is an area which contains the nineteenth-century glasshouse against the north wall. The central section was divided from this section by a beech hedge. This area lies immediately in front and to the south of the house, with its ha-ha and summerhouse. The summerhouse is situated next to the ha-ha, facing east. It is a domed stone alcove with a dressed stone front, in which is a fitted bench. It is probably contemporary with the eighteenth-century remodelling of the house. A level area of grass just in front of the house was made as a tennis court or croquet lawn in the late nineteenth century. Immediately to the west of this is a separate walled area which was used as an orchard in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Sources

Primary

National Library of Wales:

1808 watercolour drawings and Tour by Mrs Smith (drawings vol. 48, ff. 2, 3, 5; Tour).

Secondary

Hubbard, E., Clwyd (1986), pp. 291-92.